

Assembly Bill No. 2776

CHAPTER 999

An act to amend Sections 25123.3, 25123.5, 25143, 25200.1.5, 25200.14, 25218.8, 25244.21, and 25245.4 of, and to add Section 25150.6 to, the Health and Safety Code, relating to hazardous waste.

[Approved by Governor September 27, 1996. Filed
with Secretary of State September 27, 1996.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 2776, Miller. Hazardous waste: storage: variances: permits.

(1) Existing law requires hazardous waste facilities, including, but not limited to, storage facilities, to operate under hazardous waste facilities permits issued by the Department of Toxic Substances Control. The term "storage facility" is defined as excluding a generator of hazardous waste that accumulates hazardous waste onsite pursuant to specified requirements.

A violation of the provisions regulating hazardous waste, including a regulation adopted pursuant to those laws, is a crime.

This bill would revise the definition of the term "storage facility" with regard to the requirements for the exemption of a generator of hazardous waste from that definition and would revise the definition of the term "treatment" to exclude those methods, techniques, or processes that are otherwise excluded pursuant to the hazardous waste control laws.

The bill would impose a state-mandated local program by revising the definition of a crime.

(2) Under existing law, the department is authorized to grant a variance from the requirements regulating the management of hazardous waste, if the department makes specified findings, only upon receipt of a variance application for a site owned or operated by an individual or business. The department is authorized to waive the fee for an application for a variance under specified conditions.

This bill would allow the department to additionally grant a variance, on its own initiative, until January 1, 2002, with a time period of not more than one year, and an additional one year renewal, upon making specified findings. The bill would delete the conditions for a waiver of the fees for an application for a variance and would authorize the department to charge a fee equal to the department's cost of issuing a variance upon mutual agreement with the applicant.

The department would also be authorized to grant a variance from certain requirements of the federal Resource Conservation and Recovery Act of 1976.

The bill would authorize the department to exempt, until January 1, 2002, by regulation, a hazardous waste management activity from requirements of the hazardous waste control laws, subject to specified conditions. The department would be required to prepare a specified evaluation of the activity and make a specified demonstration when adopting such a regulation to exempt a hazardous waste management activity.

Since a violation of the regulations authorized by this bill would be a crime, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

(3) Existing law authorizes the department to establish an administrative process to certify hazardous waste environmental technologies if the department determines that those technologies, among other things, can be operated without specialized training and with minimal maintenance.

This bill would delete the requirement that those technologies be operated without specialized training and minimal maintenance.

(4) Existing law exempts certain recycle-only household hazardous waste facilities from the requirements of obtaining a hazardous waste facilities permit if the facility, among other things, accepts only specified types of household hazardous waste.

This bill would additionally include, as materials that may be accepted, intact spent florescent and high intensity lamps.

(5) Existing law requires specified generators of hazardous waste to maintain certain reports and summaries with regard to hazardous waste management practices. If a generator fails to respond to a request for a copy of those reports and summaries, the department is required, if appropriate, to assess a civil penalty.

This bill would additionally require a unified program agency to assess such a civil penalty if the generator fails to respond to a request for a copy of those reports and summaries, thereby creating a state-mandated local program by imposing a new duty upon local agencies.

(6) The bill would also make various technical changes and delete obsolete provisions.

(7) The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.

This bill would provide that no reimbursement is required by this act for specified reasons.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. Section 25123.3 of the Health and Safety Code is amended to read:

25123.3. (a) For purposes of this section, the following terms have the following meaning:



(1) “Liquid hazardous waste” means a hazardous waste that meets the definition of free liquids, as specified in Section 66260.10 of Title 22 of the California Code of Regulations, as that section read on January 1, 1994.

(2) “Remediation waste staging” means the temporary accumulation of non-RCRA contaminated soil that is generated and held onsite, and that is accumulated for the purpose of onsite treatment pursuant to a certified, authorized or permitted treatment method, such as a transportable treatment unit, if all of the following requirements are met:

(A) The hazardous waste being accumulated does not contain free liquids.

(B) The hazardous waste is accumulated on an impermeable surface, such as high density polyethylene (HDPE) of at least 20 mills that is supported by a foundation, or high density polyethylene of at least 60 mills that is not supported by a foundation.

(C) The generator provides controls for windblown dispersion and precipitation runoff and run-on and complies with any stormwater permit requirements issued by a regional water quality control board.

(D) The generator has the accumulation site inspected weekly and after storms to ensure that the controls for windblown dispersion and precipitation runoff and run-on are functioning properly.

(E) The staging area is certified by a registered engineer for compliance with the standards specified in subparagraphs (A) to (D), inclusive.

(3) “Transfer facility” means any offsite facility which is related to the transportation of hazardous waste, including, but not limited to, loading docks, parking areas, storage areas, and other similar areas where shipments of hazardous waste are held during the normal course of transportation.

(b) “Storage facility” means a hazardous waste facility at which the hazardous waste meets any of the following requirements:

(1) The hazardous waste is held for greater than 90 days at an onsite facility. The department may establish criteria and procedures to extend that 90-day period, consistent with the federal act, and to prescribe the manner in which the hazardous waste may be held if not otherwise prescribed by statute.

(2) The hazardous waste is held for any period of time at an offsite facility which is not a transfer facility.

(3) (A) Except as provided in subparagraph (C), the hazardous waste is held at a transfer facility for periods greater than six days, or greater than 10 days for transfer facilities in areas zoned industrial by the local planning authority.

(B) The department may adopt regulations which set forth enforceable management standards that protect human health and the environment and which apply to persons holding hazardous

waste at a transfer facility located in a commercial or residential area pursuant to subparagraph (A). Any regulations adopted pursuant to this subparagraph shall be considered by the Office of Administrative Law to be necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety, and general welfare, and may be adopted as emergency regulations in accordance with Chapter 3.5 (commencing with Section 11340) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code.

(C) The department may extend the period of time specified in subparagraph (A) for hazardous waste which is generated as a result of an emergency release and which is collected and temporarily stored by emergency rescue personnel, as defined in Section 25501, or by a response action contractor, as defined in Section 25364.6, upon the request of emergency rescue personnel or the response action contractor. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a transfer facility which holds hazardous waste for periods greater than six days, or greater than 10 days for transfer facilities in areas zoned industrial by the local planning authority, pursuant to this subparagraph shall not be classified as a storage facility.

(4) (A) Except as provided in subparagraph (B), the hazardous waste is held onsite for any period of time, unless the hazardous waste is held in a container, tank, drip pad, or containment building pursuant to regulations adopted by the department.

(B) Notwithstanding subparagraph (A), a generator that accumulates hazardous waste generated and held onsite for 90 days or less for offsite transportation is not a storage facility if all of the following requirements are met:

(i) The waste is non-RCRA contaminated soil.

(ii) The hazardous waste being accumulated does not contain free liquids.

(iii) The hazardous waste is accumulated on an impermeable surface, such as high density polyethylene (HDPE) of at least 20 mills that is supported by a foundation, or high density polyethylene of at least 60 mills that is not supported by a foundation.

(iv) The generator provides controls for windblown dispersion and precipitation runoff and run-on and complies with any stormwater permit requirements issued by a regional water quality control board.

(v) The generator has the accumulation site inspected weekly and after storms to ensure that the controls for windblown dispersion and precipitation runoff and run-on are functioning properly.

(vi) The generator, after final offsite transportation, inspects the accumulation site for contamination and remediates as necessary.

(vii) The site is certified by a registered engineer for compliance with the standards specified in clauses (i) to (vi), inclusive.

(5) The hazardous waste is held at a transfer facility for any period of time in a manner other than in a container or tank.



(6) (A) Except as provided in subparagraph (B), the hazardous waste is held at a transfer facility for any period of time and handling occurs.

(B) Notwithstanding subparagraph (A), and to the extent consistent with the federal act, a transfer facility is not a storage facility if the hazardous waste is held in containers or tanks at a transfer facility for a period of six days or less, or 10 days or less for transfer facilities in areas zoned industrial by the local planning authority, and no handling occurs, other than the transfer of packages or containerized hazardous waste from one vehicle to another.

(c) The time period for calculating the 90-day period for purposes of paragraph (1) of subdivision (b) begins when the facility has accumulated 100 kilograms of hazardous waste or one kilogram of extremely hazardous waste or acutely hazardous waste. However, if the facility generates more than 100 kilograms of hazardous waste or one kilogram of extremely hazardous waste or acutely hazardous waste during any calendar month, the time period begins when any amount of hazardous waste first begins to accumulate in that month.

(d) Notwithstanding paragraph (1) of subdivision (b), a generator of hazardous waste that accumulates waste onsite is not a storage facility if all of the following requirements are met:

(1) The generator accumulates a maximum of 55 gallons of hazardous waste, one quart of acutely hazardous waste, or one quart of extremely hazardous waste at an initial accumulation point which is at or near the area where the waste is generated and which is under the control of the operator of the process generating the waste.

(2) The generator accumulates the waste in containers other than tanks.

(3) The generator does not hold the hazardous waste onsite without a hazardous waste facilities permit or other grant of authorization for a period of time longer than the shorter of the following time periods:

(A) One year from the initial date of accumulation.

(B) Ninety days, or if subdivision (h) is applicable, 180 or 270 days, from the date that the quantity limitation specified in paragraph (1) is reached.

(4) The generator labels any container used for the accumulation of hazardous waste with the initial date of accumulation and with the words “hazardous waste” or other words that identify the contents of the container.

(5) Within three days of reaching any applicable quantity limitation specified in paragraph (1), the generator labels the container holding the accumulated hazardous waste with the date the quantity limitation was reached and either transports the waste offsite or holds the waste onsite and complies with either the regulations adopted by the department establishing requirements for generators subject to the time limit specified in paragraph (1) of

subdivision (b) or the requirements specified in paragraph (1) of subdivision (h), whichever requirements are applicable.

(6) The generator complies with regulations adopted by the department pertaining to the use and management of containers and any other regulations adopted by the department to implement this subdivision.

(e) (1) Notwithstanding paragraphs (1) and (4) of subdivision (b), hazardous waste held for remediation waste staging shall not be considered to be held at a hazardous waste storage facility if the total accumulation period is one year or less from the date of the initial placing of hazardous waste by the generator at the staging site for onsite remediation, except that the department may grant one six-month extension, upon a showing of reasonable cause by the generator.

(2) (A) The generator shall submit a notification of plans to store and treat hazardous waste onsite pursuant to paragraph (2) of subdivision (a), in person or by certified mail, with return receipt requested, to the department and to one of the following:

(i) The CUPA, if the generator is under the jurisdiction of a CUPA.

(ii) If the generator is not under the jurisdiction of a CUPA, the notification shall be submitted to the officer or agency authorized, pursuant to subdivision (f) of Section 25404.3, to implement and enforce the requirements of this chapter listed in paragraph (1) of subdivision (c) of Section 25404.

(B) If, after the notification pursuant to subparagraph (A), or during the initial year or the six-month extension granted by the department, the generator determines that treatment cannot be accomplished for all, or part of, the hazardous waste accumulated in a remediation waste staging area, the generator shall immediately notify the department and the appropriate local agency, pursuant to subparagraph (A), that the treatment has been discontinued. The generator shall then handle and dispose of the hazardous waste in accordance with paragraph (4) of subdivision (b).

(C) A generator shall not hold hazardous waste for remediation waste staging unless the generator can show, through laboratory testing, bench scale testing, or other documentation, that soil held for remediation waste staging is potentially treatable. Any fines and penalties imposed for a violation of this subparagraph may be imposed beginning with the 91st day that the hazardous waste was initially accumulated.

(3) Once an onsite treatment operation is completed on hazardous waste held pursuant to paragraph (1), the generator shall inspect the staging area for contamination and remediate as necessary.

(f) Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter, remediation waste staging and non-RCRA contaminated soil held for offsite transportation in accordance with paragraph (4) of

subdivision (b) shall not be considered to be disposal or land disposal of hazardous waste.

(g) A generator who holds hazardous waste for remediation waste staging pursuant to paragraph (2) of subdivision (a) or who holds hazardous waste onsite for offsite transportation pursuant to paragraph (4) of subdivision (b) shall maintain records onsite that demonstrate compliance with this section related to storing hazardous waste for remediation waste staging or related to holding hazardous waste onsite for offsite transportation, as applicable. The records maintained pursuant to this subdivision shall be available for review by any public agency authorized pursuant to Section 25180 or 25185.

(h) (1) Notwithstanding paragraph (1) of subdivision (b), a generator of less than 1,000 kilograms of hazardous waste in any calendar month who accumulates hazardous waste onsite for 180 days or less, or 270 days or less if the generator transports the generator's own waste, or offers the generator's waste for transportation, over a distance of 200 miles or more, for offsite treatment, storage, or disposal, is not a storage facility if all of the following apply:

(A) The quantity of hazardous waste accumulated onsite never exceeds 6,000 kilograms.

(B) The generator complies with the requirements of subdivisions (d), (e), and (f) of Section 262.34 of Title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations.

(C) The generator does not hold acutely hazardous waste or extremely hazardous waste in an amount greater than one kilogram for a time period longer than that specified in paragraph (1) of subdivision (b).

(2) A generator meeting the requirements of paragraph (1) who does not receive a copy of the manifest with the handwritten signature of the owner or operator of the facility to which the generator's waste is submitted, within 60 days from the date that the hazardous waste was accepted by the initial transporter, shall submit to the department a legible copy of the manifest, with some indication that the generator has not received confirmation of delivery.

SEC. 2. Section 25123.5 of the Health and Safety Code is amended to read:

25123.5. "Treatment" means any method, technique, or process which is not otherwise excluded from the definition of treatment by this chapter and which is designed to change the physical, chemical, or biological character or composition of any hazardous waste or any material contained therein, or which removes or reduces its harmful properties or characteristics for any purpose. "Treatment" does not include the removal of residues from manufacturing process equipment for the purposes of cleaning that equipment.

SEC. 3. Section 25143 of the Health and Safety Code is amended to read:

25143. (a) The department may grant a variance from one or more of the requirements of this chapter, or the regulations adopted pursuant to this chapter, for the management of a hazardous waste if all of the following conditions apply:

(1) One of the following conditions applies:

(A) The hazardous waste is solely a non-RCRA hazardous waste or the hazardous waste or its management is exempt from, or is not otherwise regulated pursuant to, the federal act.

(B) The requirement from which a variance is being granted is not a requirement of the federal act, or the regulations adopted to implement the federal act.

(C) The department has issued, or is simultaneously issuing, a variance from the federal act for the hazardous waste management pursuant to subdivision (c).

(2) The department makes one of the following findings:

(A) The hazardous waste, the amount of the hazardous waste, or the hazardous waste management activity or management unit is insignificant or unimportant as a potential hazard to human health and safety or to the environment, when managed in accordance with the conditions, limitations, and other requirements specified in the variance.

(B) The requirements, from which a variance is being granted, are insignificant or unimportant in preventing or minimizing a potential hazard to human health and safety or the environment.

(C) The handling, processing, or disposal of the hazardous waste, or the hazardous waste management activity, is regulated by another governmental agency in a manner that ensures it will not pose a substantial present or potential hazard to human health and safety, and the environment.

(D) A requirement imposed by another public agency provides protection of human health and safety or the environment equivalent to the protection provided by the requirement from which the variance is being granted.

(3) The variance is granted in accordance with this section.

(b) (1) The department may grant a variance upon receipt of a variance application for a site or sites owned or operated by an individual or business concern. The individual or business concern submitting the application for a variance shall submit to the department sufficient information to enable the department to determine if all of the conditions required by subdivision (a) are satisfied for all situations within the scope of the requested variance.

(2) The department may also grant a variance, on its own initiative, to one or more individuals or business concerns. If the variance is granted to more than one individual or business concern,

the department, in granting the variance pursuant to this paragraph, shall comply with all of the following requirements:

(A) The department shall make all of the following findings, in addition to the findings required pursuant to paragraph (2) of subdivision (a):

(i) That the variance is necessary to address a temporary situation, or that the variance is needed to address an ongoing situation pending the adoption of regulations by the department.

(ii) That the variance will not create a substantive competitive disadvantage for a member or members of a specific class of facilities. This finding shall be based upon information available to the department at the time that the variance is granted.

(iii) That there are no reasonably foreseeable site-specific physical or operating conditions that could potentially impact the finding made by the department pursuant to paragraph (2) of subdivision (a). This finding shall be supported by substantial evidence in the record as a whole, and shall be based upon both of the following:

(I) The types of hazardous waste streams, the estimated amounts of hazardous waste, and the locations that are affected by the variance. The estimate of the amounts of hazardous waste that are affected by the variance shall be based upon information reasonably available to the department.

(II) Due inquiry, with respect to the hazardous waste streams and management activities affected by the variance, regarding the potential for mismanagement, enforcement and site remediation experience, and proximity to sensitive receptors.

(B) The variance shall not be granted for a period of more than one year. A variance granted pursuant to this paragraph may be renewed for one additional one-year period, if the department makes a finding that the variance has not resulted in harm to human health or safety or to the environment and that there has been substantial compliance with the conditions contained in the variance.

(C) The department shall issue a public notice at least 30 days prior to granting the variance to allow an opportunity for public comment. The public notice shall be issued in the California Regulatory Register, to the department's regulatory mailing list, and to all potentially affected hazardous waste facilities and generators known to the department. The department shall, upon request, hold a public meeting prior to granting the variance. In granting the variance and in making the findings required by paragraph (2) of subdivision (a) and subparagraph (A), the department shall consider all public comments received.

(D) The department shall not grant a variance pursuant to this paragraph from the definition of, or classification as, a hazardous waste, or from requirements pertaining to the investigation or remediation of releases of hazardous waste or constituents.

(E) The authority of the department to grant or renew variances pursuant to this paragraph shall remain in effect only until January 1, 2002, unless a later enacted statute, which is enacted before January 1, 2002, deletes or extends that date. This subparagraph shall not be construed to invalidate any variance granted pursuant to this paragraph prior to the expiration of the department's authority.

(c) (1) In addition to the variance authorized pursuant to subdivisions (a) and (b), the department, after making one of the findings specified in paragraph (2) of subdivision (a), may also grant a variance from the requirements of the federal act in accordance with the provisions of Sections 260.30, 260.31, 260.32, and 260.33 of Title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations, or any successor federal regulations, regarding the issuance of variances from classification of a material as a solid waste or variances classifying enclosed devices using controlled flame combustion as boilers.

(2) This subdivision shall take effect on the date that the department obtains authorization from the Environmental Protection Agency to implement those provisions of the federal act that are identified in paragraph (1).

(d) Each variance issued pursuant to this section shall be issued on a form prescribed by the department and shall, as applicable, include, but not be limited to, all of the following:

(1) Information identifying the individuals or business concerns to which the variance applies. This identification shall be by name, location of the site or sites, type of hazardous waste generated or managed, or type of hazardous waste management activity, as applicable.

(2) As applicable, a description of the physical characteristics and chemical composition of the hazardous waste or the specifications of the hazardous waste management activity or unit to which the variance applies.

(3) The time period during which the variance is effective.

(4) A specification of the requirements of this chapter or the regulations adopted pursuant to this chapter from which the variance is granted.

(5) A specification of the conditions, limitations, or other requirements to which the variance is subject.

(e) (1) Variances issued pursuant to this section are subject to review at the discretion of the department and may be revoked or modified at any time.

(2) The department shall revoke or modify a variance if the department finds any of the following:

(A) The conditions required by this section are no longer satisfied.

(B) The holder of the variance is in violation of one or more of the conditions, limitations, or other requirements of the variance, and, as a result of the violation, the conditions required by this section are no longer satisfied.



(C) If the variance was granted because of the finding specified in subparagraph (C) or (D) of paragraph (2) of subdivision (a), the holder of the variance is in violation of one or more of the regulatory requirements of another governmental agency to which the holder is subject and the violation invalidates that finding.

(f) (1) (A) The department may, upon mutual agreement with an individual or business concern applying for a variance, charge a fee that is equal to the actual cost of the department in reviewing and making a determination on the variance.

(B) If the applicant pays a fee pursuant to subparagraph (A), the applicant is not subject to the variance fee required by Section 25205.7.

(2) The department may waive all, or part, of the fees required by Section 25205.7 for an application for a variance by an individual or business concern.

(g) Within 30 days from the date of granting a variance, the department shall issue a public notice on the California Regulatory Register.

SEC. 4. Section 25150.6 is added to the Health and Safety Code, to read:

25150.6. (a) Except as provided in subdivision (e), the department may, by regulation, exempt a hazardous waste management activity from one or more of the requirements of this chapter, if the department does all of the following:

(1) Prepares the analysis of the hazardous waste management activity to which the exemption will apply, as required by subdivision (b).

(2) Demonstrates that one of the conclusions required by subdivision (c) is valid.

(3) Imposes, as may be necessary, conditions and limitations on the exemption that ensure that the exempted activity will not pose a significant potential hazard to human health or safety or to the environment.

(b) Before the department adopts a regulation exempting a hazardous waste activity from one or more of the requirements of this chapter pursuant to subdivision (a), the department shall evaluate the activity and prepare an analysis that addresses all of the following aspects of the activity, to the extent that the requirement or requirements from which the activity will be exempted can affect these aspects of the activity:

(1) The types of hazardous waste streams and the estimated amounts of hazardous waste that are managed as part of the activity and the hazards to human health or safety or to the environment posed by reasonably foreseeable mismanagement of those hazardous wastes and their hazardous constituents. The estimate of the amounts of hazardous waste that are managed as part of the activity shall be based upon information reasonably available to the department.

(2) The complexity of the activity, and the amount and complexity of operator training, equipment installation and maintenance, and monitoring that are required to ensure that the activity is conducted in a manner that safely and effectively manages the particular hazardous waste stream.

(3) The chemical or physical hazards that are associated with the activity and the degree to which those hazards are similar to, or differ from, the chemical or physical hazards that are associated with the production processes that are carried out in the facilities that produce the hazardous waste that is managed as part of the activity.

(4) The types of accidents that might reasonably be foreseen to occur during the management of particular types of hazardous waste streams as part of the activity, the likely consequences of those accidents, and the actual reasonably available accident history associated with the activity.

(5) The types of locations at which the activity may be carried out, an estimate of the number of these locations, and the types of hazards that may be posed by proximity to the land uses described in subdivision (b) of Section 25232. The estimate of the number of locations at which the activity may be carried out shall be based upon information reasonably available to the department.

(c) The department shall not adopt a regulation pursuant to subdivision (a) unless it first demonstrates, using the information developed in the analysis prepared pursuant to subdivision (b), that one of the following is valid:

(1) The requirement from which the activity is exempted is not significant or important in either of the following:

(A) Preventing or mitigating potential hazards to human health or safety or to the environment posed by the activity.

(B) Ensuring that the activity is conducted in compliance with other applicable requirements of this chapter and the regulations adopted pursuant to this chapter.

(2) A requirement is imposed and enforced by another public agency that provides protection of human health and safety and the environment that is as effective as, and equivalent to, the protection provided by the requirement, or requirements, from which the activity is being exempted.

(3) Conditions or limitations imposed on the exemption will provide protection of human health and safety and the environment equivalent to the requirement, or requirements, from which the activity is exempted.

(4) Conditions or limitations imposed on the exemption accomplish the same regulatory purpose as the requirement, or requirements, from which the activity is being exempted but at less cost or greater administrative convenience and without increasing potential risks to human health or safety or to the environment.



(d) A regulation adopted pursuant to this section shall not be deemed to meet the standard of necessity, pursuant to Section 11349.1 of the Government Code, unless the department has complied with subdivisions (b) and (c).

(e) The department shall not exempt a hazardous waste management activity from a requirement of this chapter or the regulations adopted by the department if the requirement is also a requirement for that activity under the federal act.

(f) The authority of the department to adopt regulations pursuant to this section shall remain in effect only until January 1, 2002, unless a later enacted statute, which is enacted before January 1, 2002, deletes or extends that date. This subdivision shall not be construed to invalidate any regulation adopted pursuant to this section prior to the expiration of the department's authority.

SEC. 5. Section 25200.1.5 of the Health and Safety Code is amended to read:

25200.1.5. (a) The department may establish an administrative process to certify hazardous waste environmental technologies that it determines will not pose a significant potential hazard to human health and safety or to the environment if they are used under specified operating conditions. Hazardous waste environmental technologies which may be certified shall include, but are not limited to, hazardous waste management technologies, site mitigation technologies, and waste minimization and pollution prevention technologies. The certification process shall not be used for hazardous waste incineration technologies. The certification shall include all of the following:

(1) A statement of the technical specifications applicable to the technology.

(2) A determination of the composition of the hazardous wastes or chemical constituents for which the technology can appropriately be used.

(3) An estimate of the efficacy and efficiency of the technology in regard to the hazardous wastes or chemical constituents for which it is certified.

(4) A specification of the minimal operational standards the technology is required to meet to ensure that the certified technology is managed properly and used safely.

(b) An applicant for certification of a hazardous waste environmental technology shall provide the department with any information required by the department to make a determination on the application for certification.

(c) The department's proposed decision on an application for certification of a hazardous waste environmental technology shall be published in the California Regulatory Notice Register and shall be subject to a 30-day comment period. The department's final decision on an application for certification of a hazardous waste

environmental technology shall become effective not sooner than 30 days from the date of publication of the final decision in the California Regulatory Notice Register.

(d) The department may decertify a hazardous waste environmental technology if it determines, on the basis of any information, that the hazardous waste environmental technology may pose a significant potential hazard to human health and safety or to the environment. The department may decertify a hazardous waste environmental technology in accordance with the procedure set forth in subdivision (c).

(e) The department's decision on an application for certification under this section is exempt from the requirements of Chapter 3.5 (commencing with Section 11340), Chapter 4 (commencing with Section 11370), and Chapter 5 (commencing with Section 11500) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code, and shall not be subject to the review and approval of the Office of Administrative Law.

(f) Based on the determination made by the department pursuant to subdivision (a), other local and state government permitting authorities may take this certification process into consideration when making their permitting decisions.

(g) (1) The department shall place appropriate conditions on any certification granted pursuant to this section. Those conditions may include, but are not limited to, all of the following:

(A) Limits on the types, volume, and concentration of waste streams that may be employed with the technology.

(B) Operating requirements.

(C) Monitoring requirements.

(2) Any technology certified by the department pursuant to this section may be eligible for authorization pursuant to permit-by-rule or conditional authorization pursuant to Section 25200.3, or conditional exemption pursuant to Section 25201.5, only if the department determines that the use of that technology to handle the waste stream or streams is demonstrated to be as safe and as effective as the processes that are subject to regulation pursuant to permit-by-rule or conditional authorization pursuant to Section 25200.3 or conditional exemption pursuant to Section 25201.5. A certified technology determined to be eligible for authorization pursuant to permit-by-rule shall, in addition to any conditions placed on the certification pursuant to paragraph (1), operate in accordance with all conditions of the certification and permit-by-rule.

(3) In determining the placement of a technology certified pursuant to this section for operation pursuant to permit-by-rule or pursuant to a grant of conditional authorization under Section 25200.3 or conditional exemption under Section 25201.5, the department shall, to the extent information is available, consider all the following factors in making its determination:



(A) The hazardous waste streams that are treated using the treatment methods and the hazards to human health and safety or the environment posed by those hazardous wastes and their hazardous constituents.

(B) The complexity of the treatment method, the degree of difficulty in carrying it out, and the technology that is used to carry it out.

(C) Chemical or physical hazards that are associated with the use of the treatment process and the degree to which these hazards are similar to, or differ from, the chemical or physical hazards that are associated with the production processes that are carried out in the facilities that produce the hazardous waste that is treated using the treatment methods.

(D) The levels of specialized operator training, equipment maintenance, and monitoring that are required to ensure the safety of the treatment method and its effectiveness in treating particular hazardous waste streams.

(E) The types of accidents that may occur during the treatment of particular types of hazardous waste streams, the likely consequences of those accidents, and the actual accident history associated with use of the treatment method.

(h) The department shall charge fees to review and certify environmental technologies pursuant to this section that are sufficient to recover the actual costs of the department in reviewing and approving the technology.

(i) The department shall implement a program to continually monitor and oversee manufacturers and users of technologies certified pursuant to this section, to ensure that the certified technologies are operating in a manner which is not hazardous to human health and safety or to the environment.

(j) The department shall adopt regulations to implement the certification process.

SEC. 6. Section 25200.14 of the Health and Safety Code is amended to read:

25200.14. (a) For purposes of this section, “phase I environmental assessment” means a preliminary site assessment based on reasonably available knowledge of the facility, including, but not limited to, historical use of the property, prior releases, visual and other surveys, records, consultant reports, and regulatory agency correspondence.

(b) (1) Except as provided in paragraph (2) and in subdivision (i), in implementing the requirements of Section 25200.10 for facilities operating pursuant to a permit-by-rule under the regulations adopted by the department regarding transportable treatment units and fixed treatment units, which are contained in Chapter 45 (commencing with Section 67450.1) of Division 4.5 of Title 22 of the California Code of Regulations, or for generators

operating pursuant to a grant of conditional authorization under Section 25200.3, the department or the unified program agency authorized to implement this section pursuant to Section 25404.1 shall require the owner or operator of the facility or the generator to complete and file a phase I environmental assessment with the department or the authorized unified program agency not later than one year from the date of adoption of the checklist specified in subdivision (f), but not later than January 1, 1997, or one year from the date that the facility or generator becomes authorized to operate, whichever date is later. After submitting a phase I environmental assessment, the owner or operator of the facility or the generator shall subsequently submit to the department or the authorized unified program agency, during the next regular reporting period, if any, updated information obtained by the facility owner or operator or the generator concerning releases subsequent to the submission of the phase I environmental assessment.

(2) Paragraph (1) does not apply to a facility owner or operator that is conducting, or has conducted, a site assessment of the entire facility or to a generator that is conducting, or has conducted, a site assessment of the entire facility of the generator in accordance with an order issued by a California regional water quality control board or any other state or federal environmental enforcement agency.

(c) An assessment which would otherwise meet the requirements of this section that is prepared for another purpose and was completed not more than three years prior to the date by which the facility owner or operator or the generator is required to submit a phase I environmental assessment may be used to comply with this section if the assessment is supplemented by any relevant updated information reasonably available to the facility owner or operator or to the generator.

(d) The department or the unified program agency authorized to implement this section pursuant to Section 25404.1 shall not require sampling or testing as part of the phase I environmental assessment. A phase I environmental assessment shall be certified by the facility owner or operator or by the generator, or by their designee, or by a certified professional engineer, or a geologist, or a registered environmental assessor. The phase I environmental assessment shall indicate whether the preparer believes that further investigation, including sampling and analysis, is necessary to determine whether a release has occurred, or to determine the extent of a release from a solid waste management unit or hazardous waste management unit.

(e) (1) If the results of a phase I environmental assessment conducted pursuant to subdivision (b) indicate that further investigation is needed to determine the existence or extent of a release from a solid waste management unit or hazardous waste management unit, the facility owner or operator or the generator



shall submit a schedule, within 90 days from the date of submission of the phase I environmental assessment, for that further investigation to the department or to the unified program agency authorized to implement this section pursuant to Section 25404.1. If the department or the authorized unified program agency determines, based upon a review of the phase I environmental assessment or other site-specific information in its possession, that further investigation is needed to determine the existence or extent of a release from a solid waste management unit or hazardous waste management unit, in addition to any further action proposed by the facility owner or operator or the generator, or determines that a different schedule is necessary to prevent harm to human health and safety or to the environment, the department or the authorized unified program agency shall inform the facility owner or operator or the generator of that determination and shall set a reasonable time period in which to accomplish that further investigation.

(2) In determining if a schedule is acceptable for investigation or remediation of any facility or generator subject to this section, the department may require more expeditious action if the department determines that hazardous constituents are mobile and are likely moving toward, or have entered, a source of drinking water, as defined by the State Water Resources Control Board, or determines that more expeditious action is otherwise necessary to protect human health or safety or the environment. To the extent that the department determines that the hazardous constituents are relatively immobile, or that more expeditious action is otherwise not necessary to protect public health or safety or the environment, the department may allow a longer schedule to allow the facility or generator to accumulate a remediation fund, or other financial assurance mechanism, prior to taking corrective action.

(3) If a facility owner or operator or the generator is conducting further investigation to determine the nature or extent of a release pursuant to, and in compliance with, an order issued by a California regional water quality control board or other state or federal environmental enforcement agency, the department or the authorized unified program agency shall deem that investigation adequate for the purposes of determining the nature and extent of the release or releases that the order addressed, as the investigation pertains to the jurisdiction of the ordering agency.

(f) The department shall develop a checklist to be used by facility owners or operators and generators in conducting a phase I environmental assessment. The development and publication of the checklist is not subject to Chapter 3.5 (commencing with Section 11340) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code. The department shall hold at least one public workshop concerning the development of the checklist. The checklist shall not exceed the phase I requirements adopted by the American Society for Testing

and Materials (ASTM) for due diligence for commercial real estate transactions. The department shall deem compliance with those ASTM standards, or compliance with the checklist developed and published by the department, as meeting the phase I environmental assessment requirements of this section.

(g) A facility, or to the extent required by the regulations adopted by the department, a transportable treatment unit, operating pursuant to a permit-by-rule shall additionally comply with the remaining corrective action requirements specified in Section 67450.7 of Title 22 of the California Code of Regulations, in effect on January 1, 1992.

(h) A generator operating pursuant to a grant of conditional authorization pursuant to Section 25200.3 shall additionally comply with paragraph (3) of subdivision (c) of Section 25200.3.

(i) The department or the authorized unified program agency shall not require a phase I environmental assessment for those portions of a facility subject to a corrective action order issued pursuant to Section 25187, a cleanup and abatement order issued pursuant to Section 13304 of the Water Code, or a corrective action required under subsection (u) of Section 6924 of Title 42 of the United States Code or subsection (h) of Section 6928 of Title 42 of the United States Code.

SEC. 7. Section 25218.8 of the Health and Safety Code is amended to read:

25218.8. (a) Except as provided in subdivision (b), a hazardous waste facilities permit shall be obtained for the operation of a household hazardous waste collection facility.

(b) A hazardous waste facilities permit is not required for the operation of a recycle-only household hazardous waste collection facility if all of the following conditions are met:

(1) The facility accepts only the following recyclable household hazardous waste materials for subsequent transport to an authorized recycling facility:

(A) Latex paint.

(B) Used oil.

(C) Used oil filters.

(D) Antifreeze.

(E) Spent lead-acid batteries.

(F) Nickel-cadmium, alkaline, carbon-zinc, or other small batteries, if the facility is in compliance with Section 25216.1.

(G) Intact spent fluorescent lamps.

(H) Intact spent high intensity discharge (HID) lamps.

(2) No hazardous wastes or other materials are handled at the facility other than the materials specified in paragraph (1).

(3) The materials are transported to the collection facility by either of the following:

(A) The person who generated the material.

(B) The authorized curbside household hazardous waste collection program.

(4) The materials transported to the facility are transported in accordance with Section 25218.5.

(5) The materials collected are not stored at the facility for more than 180 days, except that less than one ton of spent lead-acid batteries may be stored at the facility for up to one year. More than one ton of spent lead-acid batteries shall not be stored at the facility for more than 180 days.

(6) The materials collected are managed in accordance with the hazardous waste labeling, containerization, emergency response, and personnel training requirements of this chapter.

(7) The facility is in compliance with Section 25218.2.

SEC. 8. Section 25244.21 of the Health and Safety Code is amended to read:

25244.21. (a) Every generator shall retain the original of the current review and plan, plan summary, report, and report summary, shall maintain a copy of the current review and plan, plan summary, report, and report summary at each site, or, for a multisite review and plan, plan summary, report, or report summary, at a central location, and upon request, shall make it available to any authorized representative of the department or the unified program agency conducting an inspection pursuant to Section 25185. If a generator fails, within five days, to make available to the inspector the review and plan, plan summary, report, or report summary, the department, the unified program agency, or any authorized representative of the department, or of the unified program agency, conducting an inspection pursuant to Section 25185, shall, if appropriate, impose a civil penalty pursuant to Section 25187, in an amount not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000) for each day the violation of this article continues, notwithstanding Section 25189.2.

(b) If a generator fails to respond to a request for a copy of its review and plan, plan summary, report, or report summary made by the department pursuant to subdivision (c) of Section 25244.18, or by a local agency, including a unified program agency, pursuant to subdivision (g) of Section 25244.18, within 30 days from the date of the request, the department or unified program agency shall, if appropriate, assess a civil penalty pursuant to Section 25187, in an amount not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000) for each day the violation of this article continues, notwithstanding Section 25189.2.

(c) (1) Any person may request the department to certify that a generator is in compliance with this article by having the department certify that the generator has properly completed the review and plan, plan summary, report and report summary required pursuant to Sections 25244.19 and 25244.20. The department shall respond within 60 days to a request for certification. Upon receiving a request for certification, the department shall request from the generator,

which is the subject of the request, a copy of the generator's review and plan, plan summary, report, and report summary, pursuant to subdivision (c) of Section 25244.19, if the department does not have these documents. The department shall forward a copy of the review and plan, plan summary, report, and report summary to the person requesting certification, within 10 days after the department receives the request for certification or receives the review and plan, plan summary, report, and report summary, whichever is later. The department shall protect trade secrets in accordance with Section 25244.23 in a review and plan, plan summary, report, or report summary, requested to be released pursuant to this subdivision.

(2) This subdivision does not prohibit any person from directly requesting from a generator a copy of the review and plan, plan summary, report, or report summary. Solely for the purposes of responding to a request pursuant to this subdivision, the department shall deem the review and plan, plan summary, report, or report summary to be a public record subject to Section 25152.5, and shall act in compliance with that section.

SEC. 9. Section 25245.4 of the Health and Safety Code is amended to read:

25245.4. (a) (1) (A) On and before September 30, 1996, a facility or transportable treatment unit operating pursuant to a permit-by-rule is exempt from any standard or regulation requiring the provision of financial assurances for the costs of closing a treatment unit of the facility authorized under a permit-by-rule or closing the transportable treatment unit that is adopted by the department pursuant to paragraph (1) of subdivision (a) of Section 25245.

(B) On and after October 1, 1996, a facility or transportable treatment unit operating pursuant to a permit-by-rule under the regulations adopted by the department regarding transportable treatment units and fixed treatment units, which are contained in Chapter 45 (commencing with Section 67450.1) of Division 4.5 of Title 22 of the California Code of Regulations, shall provide financial assurances for the costs of closing a treatment unit of the facility authorized under a permit-by-rule under those regulations, or closing the transportable treatment unit, as specified in the standards and regulations adopted by the department pursuant to paragraph (1) of subdivision (a) of Section 25245 and subdivision (d), unless the facility or transportable treatment unit is exempt from those financial assurance requirements pursuant to this chapter. A facility operating pursuant to a permit-by-rule which operates not more than 30 days in any calendar year is not required to provide financial assurances for the costs of closure of such a treatment unit pursuant to paragraph (1) of subdivision (a) of Section 25245.

(2) A facility or transportable treatment unit operating pursuant to a permit-by-rule is exempt from any standard or regulation



requiring the provision of financial assurances for third-party liability that is adopted by the department pursuant to paragraph (1) of subdivision (a) of Section 25245.

(3) A facility or transportable treatment unit operating pursuant to a permit-by-rule is not required to provide financial assurances for postclosure maintenance pursuant to paragraph (2) of subdivision (a) of Section 25245, unless the department determines, pursuant to the regulations adopted by the department, that the facility is required to obtain a postclosure permit.

(b) (1) (A) On and before September 30, 1996, a conditionally authorized generator who treats waste pursuant to Section 25200.3 is exempt from any standard or regulation requiring the provision of financial assurance for the costs of closing the conditionally authorized units that is adopted by the department pursuant to paragraph (1) of subdivision (a) of Section 25245.

(B) On and after October 1, 1996, a conditionally authorized generator who treats waste pursuant to Section 25200.3 shall provide financial assurances for the costs of closing the conditionally authorized units, as specified in the standards and regulations adopted by the department pursuant to paragraph (1) of subdivision (a) of Section 25245 and subdivision (d).

(2) A generator operating under a grant of conditional authorization pursuant to Section 25200.3 shall not be required to provide financial assurances for third-party liability damages pursuant to paragraph (1) of subdivision (a) of Section 25245.

(3) A generator operating under a grant of conditional authorization pursuant to Section 25200.3, shall not be required to provide financial assurances for postclosure maintenance pursuant to paragraph (2) of subdivision (a) of Section 25245, unless the department determines, pursuant to the regulations adopted by the department that the generator is required to obtain a postclosure permit.

(c) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a person who treats waste pursuant to a grant of conditional exemption under this chapter is exempt, for those activities, from any standards or regulations adopted by the department pursuant to paragraph (1) of subdivision (a) of Section 25245 and is not required to provide financial assurances for the costs of closing the treatment units or for damage claims arising out of the operations of the unit pursuant to paragraph (1) of subdivision (a) of Section 25245, or to provide financial assurances for postclosure maintenance pursuant to paragraph (2) of subdivision (a) of Section 25245, unless the department determines, pursuant to the regulations adopted by the department, that the person is required to obtain a postclosure permit.

(d) (1) On or before February 1, 1996, the department shall adopt regulations to implement subparagraph (B) of paragraph (1) of

subdivision (a) and subparagraph (B) of paragraph (1) of subdivision (b).

(2) The regulations adopted pursuant to this subdivision may be adopted as emergency regulations in accordance with Chapter 3.5 (commencing with Section 11340) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code.

(3) The adoption of regulations pursuant to this subdivision is an emergency and shall be considered by the Office of Administrative Law as necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety, and general welfare.

SEC. 10. No reimbursement is required by this act pursuant to Section 6 of Article XIII B of the California Constitution because a local agency or school district has the authority to levy service charges, fees, or assessments sufficient to pay for the program or level of service mandated by this act, within the meaning of Section 17556 of the Government Code, or because the costs that may be incurred by a local agency or school district will be incurred because this act creates a new crime or infraction, eliminates a crime or infraction, or changes the penalty for a crime or infraction, within the meaning of Section 17556 of the Government Code, or changes the definition of a crime within the meaning of Section 6 of Article XIII B of the California Constitution.

Notwithstanding Section 17580 of the Government Code, unless otherwise specified, the provisions of this act shall become operative on the same date that the act takes effect pursuant to the California Constitution.

